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NORTH CAROLINA'S SCRAMBLE FOR PIE

President Has His Own Ideas About Men to Be Appointed.

Times-Dispatch Bureau, Washington, D. C., April 17.

The North Carolina Republicans are between the devil and the deep blue sea. They know not where to turn to save their dignity in the judgeship contest. President Taft, it is said, would like to appoint the candidate of the organization, provided, however, he can get a judge that would be satisfactory to the lawyers of the district and one that would fill the position well, but he is not certain that H. F. Seawell, with his lack of years and experience in the higher courts, meets the demands. E. C. Duncan, National Committeeman, is close to Postmaster General Frank H. Hitchcock, and his worth as a fighter and a rounder-up of delegates is well known. The President, being a politician as well as a statesman, does not want to tear loose from such a support as Duncan if he can get around it.

In the person of Representative John Motley Morehead, who is more of a business man than a politician, Messrs. Duncan and Adams have found a stumbling block. The rank and file of the "grand old party" is developing, like the Representative from the Fifth District, and they are beginning to call on him for help.

President Taft is as proud of John Morehead as a little girl is of her colored parrot. He thinks that his two speeches at Greensboro, the one in 1906, and the other in 1908, helped to hatch him. He does not mind saying that he thinks well of this bright, clever, affable, popular young Southerner, whose ancestors were leaders in their State. Hence, Mr. Taft wants to do something for the member of the House from the Greensboro district, and he will do it by giving Thomas Settle, his champion on the stump, a judgeship or something else equally as good.

Settle's Chances. Till recently Mr. Settle's chances for the Eastern judgeship have been less than a drop in the bucket, but the fight in his behalf has gone on and on, and the mad rush of Democratic candidates has mystified the President so that he is at a loss to know what to do, and now it looks as if he might pick the plum if the right sort of showdown can be made. In having Morehead at his back, Mr. Settle is most fortunate, for he knows well and never knows when to quit. Day after day he has kept up the fight. Charles J. Harris, a college mate of Mr. Taft, has been for Settle all along. A. Tompkins, of Charlotte, put in some good words for him.

Some time ago, when Mr. Tompkins called at the White House with a committee from the National Manufacturers' Association, the President asked him to return later in the day to talk with him about the judgeship, and on being asked who he was for he said: "Tom Settle."

"Yes, but he is out of the district, and I don't see how I can give it to him," said the President. "Who would you prefer then?"

"I would rather do without a judge than," replied Mr. Tompkins. "The President insisted that it would not be the proper thing to transfer a man from another district to fill the position."

"Yes, Mr. President, that may be true, but a former President did not make any mistake when he sent you to the Philippine Islands instead of naming a native to do what you did."

The President laughed. There has been good hammering for the Asheville man. The fact that Judge S. B. Adams, of the Western District, entered the race nudged the waters for Mr. Settle, but now if Mr. Taft can take care of Judge Adams and remove him all might be well. A Wilmington lawyer, who was here the other day, told the President that Settle would be satisfactory to his people if they could not have a Democrat. Mr. Settle married in Wilmington, and therefore is little better than half an Easterner. His supporters say that if he were appointed he would move to Wilmington to live.

"I am going to take care of Thomas Settle," Judge Taft is reported to have said. **Several Good Positions.** If this be true, Mr. Settle is a good man to get out of the way. Several good positions will be open to North Carolina Republicans before many months roll by. It is said that Settle would make a good internal revenue commissioner to succeed John C. Capers.

If that position fell to him he would have the ear of the President and Mr. Hitchcock. He would be in a dangerous position for his enemies. In the course of a short while, District Attorney Holton's time will expire, and there will be a scramble for that place. If Mr. Settle is still running at large Mr. Taft might draft him for that position. Since the President has announced that he will not let the brilliant stump of his party stay out in the cold the organization may warm to him a little.

There is getting to be something more than a good, fat job at stake in this contest. If Mr. Taft were to appoint a Democrat the boys in the trenches would yell so loud that leaders would hear them. "Everything good in this world is ruined by the give and take system," declared some of the Southerners in the House during the tariff debate. The North Carolina Republicans are of the same opinion.

Harry Skinner is a favorite with many of the Eastern lawyers. His stock is up a little. Fuller seems to lead the Democrats.

SUBCONTRACT LET.

Work Is Being Pushed Rapidly on Southern Cut-Off.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LYNCHBURG, VA., April 17.—The sub-contract for the completion of the grading of the remainder of the Lynchburg "cut-off" on the Southern Railway has been let to the E. G. Nave Brothers Company, of Portsmouth, O., and work is to be started as early as possible. It is understood that the subcontractors will begin at once to assemble the necessary equipment and machinery for the work. Machinery belonging to the firm at Hurt's, on the Southern, and at Bedford City, on the Norfolk and Western, will be brought here for this work.

The work is being pushed on the big bridge over the James River between Amherst county and the city, and the pushing of the tunnel under Rivermont is going along night and day under other contracts, and it is understood that the company has issued orders to hurry all of the work so that the new line can be put into commission during the coming spring, or as early in the next year as possible.

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IN THE MONTH OF JULY

It would be advisable for parents seeking reliable information regarding schools to await the forthcoming Educational Number of The Times-Dispatch, which will be issued July 16, 1909.

¶ The Educational Number for 1909 will contain the announcements of over one hundred of the best institutions of learning in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland and District of Columbia.

¶ The edition will be fully illustrated with pictures of the schools and the data contained in this valuable compilation will prove very helpful to all who are looking for accurate information concerning the best schools in the States named.

Schools desiring representation in the Fourth Annual Educational Number will address Manager Educational Department.

The Times-Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

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TAFT PLANS TRIP

Extensive Itinerary Is Subject to Appropriation by Congress for Traveling. WASHINGTON, April 17.—President Taft, who believes that the chief magic of the nation should keep in as close contact with the people as the duties and requirements of the office admit, is planning a notable trip during the late summer and early autumn. The president's plans for the summer as far into the heated term as Aug. 15, have been completed. Mr. Taft will leave Washington as soon as he can arrange matters after the adjournment of congress, and he has been told that the extra session will end June 1. The president will go direct from the White House to his summer home at Woodbury Point, Beverly, Mass., and will spend two months or more there in golfing, motor-ing and perhaps will take short cruises along the northern coast.

The trip the president desires to make to the West during the late summer will be entirely too expensive to me paid out of his own pocket. An outline of the proposed itinerary has been given to a high railroad official, and an estimate requested. It is said that the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$15,000 to \$17,000. If he goes West at all, the president will include Alaska in the journey, sailing from Seattle, probably on a vessel

of the navy or revenue cutter service. No president has ever visited the far northern territory which for so long has been a part of the United States. In addition to his proposed visit to the Rocky Mountain States and to the Pacific northwest, the president's tentative plans for the trip include a long swing through the southwest and the heart of the South itself. Mrs. Taft, who is as fond of travel as her husband, would accompany the president on the tour. Western and Southern senators and representatives are particularly anxious to have the president visit their sections, and will do all in their power to provide the necessary funds.

President Taft makes no secret of his fondness for travel. He believes it to be the only way of securing a proper idea and a proper perspective of such a big country.

VOLCANO RUMBLING

Mount San Jacinto, in California, Is Causing Some Alarm. SAN BERNARDINO, CAL., April 17.—W. C. Garner, of this city, has returned from Mount San Jacinto and reports that he was aroused from his sleep. Mount San Jacinto is an extinct volcano. Some years ago, after heavy rumblings had been heard, an earthquake at San Jacinto destroyed buildings and killed several Indians. The mountain overlooks Imperial valley, where earthquakes were felt Thursday night.

Pleasant

Almost daily I have customers tell me my Coal burns too fast. The best remedy is to mix in a few rock, or something that will fill up the stove and won't burn, but it lasts. Your neighbor may buy that kind. It pleases me to know my Coal burned, because I know it heated. I sell every kind of Coal now at summer prices. Make a specialty of half and quarter-ton lots.

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